

# Introduction to Electroacoustic Music (MUC 4313 & 5315)

University of Florida Fall 2022

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Office: MUB 339

M/W/F 11:45-12:35 PM, MUB 147

Office Hours: W 10:40-11:30am

## How to get in touch with me:

For short questions: E-mail me. As a general rule, I answer e-mails between 9:00-5:00, and I try to answer emails within 24 hours of receipt, except on weekends.

For everything else: Come to office hours or make an appointment. Office hours are a chance for you to get help on assignments, go over material covered in class, and talk about connections between class material and other ideas. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this time.

## Course Description and Goals:

A survey of the history, repertoire, technologies, and compositional techniques of electroacoustic music, including an introduction to acoustics and the application of techniques to the creation of new electroacoustic works using a digital audio workstation.

## Course Goals:

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the development of electroacoustic music over the past century, including significant composers, works, technologies, techniques, and acoustics, through class discussion and written assignments. Students will develop critical listening skills through the aural analysis of electroacoustic repertoire. Finally, students will integrate compositional approaches and digital signal processing techniques through the creation of electroacoustic works using a digital audio workstation.

## Required Course Textbooks

Holmes, Thom. *Electronic and Experimental Music* (5<sup>th</sup> edition)

Backus, John. *The Acoustical Foundations of Music* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition)

## Optional Course Textbooks:

Cox and Warner, *Audio Culture: Readings in Modern Music*

Lieder, *Digital Audio Workstation*

## Other Course Materials

Access to a digital audio workstation (We will be using Logic Pro, which is available on all computers in the lab)

Headphones

## Attendance

Students are expected to attend all regularly scheduled classes. Each unexcused absence over three will result in a one-point deduction from your final grade. Any student with eight or more unexcused absences will fail the course. An excused absence is an approved UF event, a family emergency, or an illness. Students knowing in advance that they will miss a class must contact me **beforehand via email**. Otherwise students should contact me via e-mail to explain an absence within two days of the missed class if they wish for it to be excused. Please do not schedule non-urgent doctor's

appointments during class time. In the case of an absence (excused or unexcused), that student is responsible for determining what material was covered, and what assignments were given.

### **Tardy Policy**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. Students who are not present when I take attendance will be marked as tardy. Three tardies will count as one unexcused absence. There are no excused tardies.

### **Evaluation:**

Students will be evaluated by participation & preparation, composition projects, tests, and a podcast project. Assignment grades can be found via the “Grades” tab on Canvas. Do not use the final grade calculated by Canvas, as it is incorrect. Instead, consult the percentages below to calculate your grade:

Participation & Preparation:	5%
Assignments:	10%
Podcast Project:	15%
Tests	25%
Composition Projects:	45%

### **Scale:**

A = 93-100 / A- = 90-92 / B+ = 87-89 / B = 83-86 / B- = 80-82 / C+ = 77-79 / C = 73-76 C- = 70-72 / D+ = 67-69 / D = 66-65 / D- = 63-64 / E = 0-62

### **Late Submission Policy**

Late assignment submissions (not including late submissions due to excused absences) will be accepted with a grade deduction of 10% if submitted within 24 hours of the due date, and a 5% further reduction for each additional day the assignment is late. Assignments submitted ten or more days late will be accepted with an automatic grade deduction of 50%. Assignment due-date extension requests will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and should be requested via e-mail at least 24 hours in advance of the original due date.

### **UF Student Honor Code**

You are required to abide by the Student Honor Code. Any violation of the academic integrity expected of you will result in a minimum academic sanction of a failing grade on the assignment or assessment. Any alleged violations of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. Please review the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code at <http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

### **Technology Policy:**

Your attention is your most valuable asset; use it to the best of your ability. I reserve the right to dock your grade and/or ask you to leave class if you are inappropriately using technology in class.

### **Homework Policy:**

You are expected to complete all reading and listening assignments. If you are unable to fully participate in class discussion because you failed to complete the assignments for a given day, your grade in the class will be adjusted accordingly.

**Digital Resources**

We will make use of Canvas for communication and assignments <https://ufl.instructure.com/>  
Please check it frequently.

Helpful online textbook resources are available at:

<https://routledge-textbooks.com/textbooks/9781138792739/default.php>

**Students Requesting Accommodations due to Disabilities**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. To request classroom accommodations, contact the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of the Disability Resources Program at P202 Peabody Hall or call 392-1261 (V), 392-3008 (TDD).

**Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

**Schedule below** (subject to change)

Week	Class	Date	Day	Reading/Topic	Assignments & Tests
1	1	8/24	Wed	Syllabus, Introduction	
	2	8/26	Fri	Class meets on Zoom: Varèse, “The Liberation of Sound” & Studio Workshop	Field Recordings Assign.
2	3	8/29	Mon	Holmes, Ch. 1: Electronic Music Before 1945	
	4	8/31	Wed	Backus, Simple Vibrating Systems & Russolo “The Art of Noise”	
	5	9/2	Fri	Studio Workshop	Editing Assignment
3	x	9/5	Mon	Labor Day: No Class	
	6	9/7	Wed	Holmes, Ch. 2: Early Electronic Music in Europe	
	7	9/9	Fri	Holmes, Ch. 5: Tape Composition and Electronic Music Fundamentals & Schaeffer, “Acousmatics”	
4	8	9/12	Mon	Studio Workshop	Comp. Project 1 Assigned
	9	9/14	Wed	Backus, Wave and Wave Propagation	
	10	9/16	Fri	Studio Workshop	
5	11	9/19	Mon	Holmes, Ch. 3: Early Elec. Music in the USA & Cage, “The Future of Music: Credo”	
	12	9/21	Wed	Studio Workshop	
	13	9/23	Fri	Test #1	Test #1
6	14	9/26	Mon	Studio Workshop	
	15	9/28	Wed	Holmes, Ch. 6: Early Synthesizers and Experimenters	
	16	9/30	Fri	Studio Workshop: Composition Project 1 Presentations	Comp. Project 1 Due
7	17	10/3	Mon	Backus, Complex Vibrations & Resonance	Research Topic Assigned
	18	10/5	Wed	Holmes, Ch. 7: Principles of Analog Synthesis and Voltage Control	
	x	10/7	Fri	Homecoming: No class	
8	19	10/10	Mon	Backus, Tone Quality (Timbre) & Eno, “The Studio as Compositional Tool”	
	20	10/12	Wed	Holmes, Ch. 8: MIDI	
	21	10/14	Fri	Studio Workshop	Comp. Project 2 Assigned

9	22	10/17	Mon	Holmes, Ch. 8: The Voltage Controlled Synthesizer	Research Topic Due
	23	10/19	Wed	Backus, Intensity and Loudness Levels	
	24	10/21	Fri	Studio Workshop	
10	25	10/24	Mon	Holmes, Ch. 9: Early Computer Music	
	26	10/26	Wed	Studio Workshop: Composition Project 2 Presentations	Comp. Project 2 Due
	27	10/28	Fri	Studio Workshop: Podcast Fundamentals	Podcast Project Assigned
11	28	10/31	Mon	Holmes, Ch. 9: Spectral Music & Backus, Frequency and Pitch	
	29	11/2	Wed	Eno, "Ambient Music" & Cutler, "Plunderphonia"	
	30	11/4	Fri	Test #2	Test #2
12	31	11/7	Mon	Holmes, Ch. 10: The Microprocessor Revolution	
	32	11/9	Wed	Klooster, "Electronic Sound Art and Aesthetic Experience"	
	33	11/11	Fri	Studio Workshop	
13	34	11/14	Mon	Holmes, Ch. 11: The Principles of Computer Music	
	35	11/16	Wed	Studio Workshop: Podcast Project Presentations	Podcast Project Due
	36	11/18	Fri	Studio Workshop: Podcast Project Presentations	
14	37	11/21	Mon	D'Esquiván, "Electronic Music and the Moving Image"	Comp Project 3 Assigned
	x	11/23	Wed	Thanksgiving Break: No Class	
	x	11/25	Fri	Thanksgiving Break: No Class	
15	38	11/28	Mon	Studio Workshop: Digital Synthesis	
	39	11/30	Wed	Studio Workshop	
	40	12/2	Fri	Electronic Music & Pulse	
16	41	12/5	Mon	Studio Workshop: Composition Project 3 Presentations	Comp. Project 3 Due
	42	12/7	Wed	Studio Workshop: Composition Project 3 Presentations	